

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A device implantable into the alveolar crest  
5 comprising:

a macro-feature disposed to shape gingival tissue  
into a gingival barrier.

2. A device according to claim 1 wherein the  
10 device is a dental implant.

3. A device according to claim 1 wherein the  
device includes and adjustment means, said adjustment  
means enabling the device to be extractable from the  
15 alveolar crest thereby progressively moving the macro-  
feature away from the alveolar crest and pulling the  
gingival tissue further away from the alveolar crest  
encouraging bone regeneration on the alveolar crest in  
a direction away from the alveolar crest.

20 4. A device according to claim 2 wherein said  
dental implant includes an implant body being screwed  
into a patient's alveolar bone, said implant body  
having a collar portion, an abutment being attachable  
25 to said collar portion a crown being attachable to said  
abutment, wherein said macro-feature includes a  
circumferential macro-gap on said abutment disposed to  
enable gingival tissue to grow into said gingival  
barrier.

30 5. A device according to claim 2 wherein said  
dental implant includes an implant body being screwed  
into a patient's alveolar bone, said implant body  
having a collar portion, an abutment being attachable  
35 to said collar portion a crown being attachable to said

abutment, wherein said macro-feature includes a circumferential macro-gap on said collar portion disposed to enable gingival tissue to grow into said gingival barrier.

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6. A device according to claim 2 wherein said dental implant includes an implant body being screwed into a patient's alveolar bone, said implant body having a collar portion, an abutment being attachable to said collar portion a crown being attachable to said abutment, wherein said macro-feature includes a circumferential macro-gap on said crown disposed to enable gingival tissue to grow into said gingival barrier.

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7. A device according to claim 2 wherein said dental implant includes an implant body being screwed into a patient's alveolar bone, said implant body having a collar portion, an abutment being attachable to said collar portion a crown being attachable to said abutment, a spacer between said abutment and said crown, wherein said macro-feature includes a circumferential macro-gap formed by a space created adjacent said spacer disposed to enable gingival tissue to grow into said gingival barrier.

8. A device according to claim 2 wherein said dental implant includes an implant body being screwed into a patient's alveolar bone, said implant body having a collar portion, an abutment being attachable to said collar portion a crown being attachable to said abutment, a spacer between said collar portion and said abutment, wherein said macro-feature includes a circumferential macro-gap formed by a space created adjacent said spacer disposed to enable gingival tissue

to grow into said gingival barrier.

9. A device according to claim 2 wherein said dental implant includes an implant body being screwed  
5 into a patient's alveolar bone, said implant body having a collar portion, an abutment being attachable to said collar portion a crown being attachable to said abutment, wherein said macro-feature includes a circumferential macro-protrusion extending from said  
10 abutment disposed to enable gingival tissue to grow into said gingival barrier.

10. A method of regeneration jaw bone on a patient comprising the steps of:  
15 inserting a device is into the patient's alveolar crest, the device having a macro-feature disposed to shape gingival tissue into a gingival barrier;  
allowing the gingival barrier to grow; and  
progressively extracting the device from the  
20 patient's alveolar crest.

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